



Date: 23/05/22

Crime Enforcement and Regulation Service (Licensing Authority)
9 Holbeach Road
London
SE6 4TW

**Objection to Firkin Brewery licence application for new premises at
15 Whitburn Road, London SE13 7UQ**

To whom it may concern

The Firkin Brewery has applied for a licence to play recorded and live music outside and inside the premises at 15 Whitburn Road, SE13 7UQ.

My husband and I live on Whitburn Road and object to the granting of this licence on the grounds that it is contrary to at least one of the objectives of your licensing policy section 1.7.

- Protecting the public and local residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible licensed premises.

The Firkin Brewery has already proved itself to be a disrespectful and irresponsible neighbour and the granting of this licence would make matters worse.

- We understand that the new space is an extension of the existing garden of the Fox & Firkin bar on Lewisham High Street, is around 10 metres behind my garden.
- We already have to suffer persistent loud music and customer rabble most weekends from the existing premises which is a good deal further away than 10 metres. Music being played outside – and inside – at the end of our garden all weekend would be unbearable.
- The music sometimes starts around lunchtime and continues until midnight or even later.
- This situation substantially interferes with the enjoyment of our home and garden, which we believe makes the noise count as a statutory nuisance. We are rarely able to enjoy peace and quiet in our garden in the afternoons and evenings at the weekends.
- Since 2017 we have submitted several complaints to Lewisham Council about this.
- To aid your understanding of the scale of the issue, we have included our diary of noise nuisance from the Fox & Firkin from the summer of 2021. This was shared with the Noise Nuisance team at the time.

We also lodged an objection to the Firkin Brewery planning application (ref: DC/21/121516) citing the company's disrespect for neighbours, but that was ignored. We want to point out that in this application, no mention was made of the intention to use the space for entertainment purposes, outside or inside.

We believe this to be a serious omission as it gives no indication of the intent to use these premises an entertainment venue in addition to a micro-brewery. This intention is now clear from the licensing application which states: The premises will be the tap room for firkin brewery limited. it will consist of an outdoor area located on the east side of the firkin brewery accessible via the roller shutter located to the east of the firkin brewery. The outdoor Space will consist of serving bar and a large marquee with table and chairs where light entertainment will be provided.

The building is situated at the end of our garden, therefore loud music being played at any time at these new premises, regardless of whether it is inside or outside, and the noise from people gathering at the serving bar, will have an increased negative effect on us and our welfare.

Another of your licensing policy objectives is:

- Encouraging greater community involvement in licensing decisions and giving local residents the opportunity to have their say regarding licensing decision that may affect them.

We are members of the community and believe it would be totally unacceptable for Lewisham Council to allow residents' lives to be further disrupted by the granting of a licence for the Firkin Brewery to play music outside and inside, during the day and in the evening.

In summary, the Firkin Brewery is an irresponsible neighbour and has shown contempt for people living nearby. Persistent loud music from the existing venue has, for the past five years or so, been detrimental to our enjoyment of our home and garden, and to our general wellbeing. To grant a licence to permit what, in our opinion, amounts to a doubling of the level of noise nuisance in the area would be unreasonable and demonstrate a general disregard for residents.

I trust the Licensing Committee will consider the issues set out above when deciding whether to grant this licence application.

Yours sincerely



Log of noise from the Fox & Firkin, summer 2021

June 11	music until at least 10:45pm
June 12	music until at least 10:45pm
June 13	football. Music starts around 4.30pm, heard beat indoors. Around 11pm, can't hear music. People in garden are loud.
June 18	Football. (loud, but willing to put up with this as it's a special occasion)
June 19	Music. Lots of noise from customers until around midnight. Being in my garden feels like being in a pub garden
June 20	Music from around 6pm. Quiet by 10pm.
June 22	football. Rowdy crowd until around 11pm
June 23	music starts around 6pm. Not terribly loud or intrusive, but after a day's work I'd like to be able to sit in my garden to get some peace and quiet. I can't. I'm forced to hear music I don't want to listen to.
June 25	Music from about 6.30pm. Still going at 10:30 and sounds/feels like sitting in a pub garden not a private garden. Still rabble at 11:20.
June 26	Music starts about 6pm – not overly loud, still intrusive. Around 10pm hear rowdy rabble which is still going on at around 12:15am
June 29	Football. A lot of noise from the crowd. (willing to accept as it's a special tournament)
July 02	10:30pm really heavy beat, thumping, heard indoors and rabble of crowd.
July 09	music going on at midnight. Not overly loud. Noise , chanting and singing from customers.
July 16	6pm – music, not loud. 9pm music is louder - at an unacceptable level. I do not want to hear it.
July 17	11pm noisy crowd and music
July 18	around 4pm, big band sound. Don't know how long that went on.
July 23	Early evening OK. 10.30pm, loud music and raucous crowd. 12:30am can still hear music and a very noisy crowd
July 24	music throughout the afternoon. 6.30pm very loud music started. 10pm really noisy crowd, shouting, sounds like a live show.
July 25	evening – loud music, can hear the bass beat indoors
July 31	Music not overly loud but really heavy beat. Noisy crowd.
August 01	Brass band! Length of playing unknown.
August 06	7.30pm music, but not overly loud

August 07	2.30pm loud music with heavy beat/bass heard indoors. Noticeably louder at 3.15pm and it went on.
August 14	Loud music all afternoon and into the evening. Particularly annoying as I was trying to enjoy time in my garden with a friend.
August 15	about 5pm loud music. Can hear indoors.
August 16	evening – music, not overly loud
August 21	3.30pm loud music. &.30pm much louder and very heavy beat.
August 27	5pm (ish) – loud music while I'm still working, only for 30 mins or so. 7.30pm – music much louder, heard indoors, thumping all evening. Around 10pm still very loud music. Not known how long that went on.
August 28	around 4.30pm, started hearing the beat of music indoors. 7.30pm still loud music. 8.30pm really fed up with hearing the beat while watching TV.
Aug 29	2pm really loud beat, heard indoors, and music. 4.45pm beat and music noticeably louder. Thumping music – I can feel the noise! - until 9pm when it was turned down a little. Still going at 10.30pm.